2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

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Colonial Office in London. Another fetter had been thrown 648
aside.

I must say a word here about that part of the guarantee 439
which ensured that Aden should remain a free port, for it is of the greatest importance. Aden was at that time, and I am glad to say still is, the great distributing centre for imports from the West and the East round the shores of Arabia and down the African coast. Cigarettes, piece-goods, provisions, machinery, sugar and grain all come to Aden in ocean-going vessels from all over the world and find their way by coastal steamers and country craft up and down the Red Sea and round the neighbouring coast. These steam coasters and country craft on their return voyages bring gums, hides and skins and coffee to Aden to be cleaned, sorted and graded, bagged or baled and exported to Europe and the United States of America. Aden has main- 504
tained her position as a great *entrepôt* by virtue of four factors and they are, her geographical position, her natural harbour, her security and her freedom from import and export duties. Only an act of God could alter the configuration of Arabia or fill the harbour by some tempestuous upheaval beyond the control of man, and security will remain and be maintained as long as Great Britain remains great. The only doubtful 651
factor at any time was freedom from customs duty, and the Arab leaders and their advisers in 1937 knew how essential it was to secure, in so far as they possibly could, this freedom as a preliminary to the transfer. None of us in Aden knew what the precise income of the new Colony would be and none of us knew what it was going to cost to run a Colony efficiently, especially a Colony which had been neglected for so long. What we did know was that the imposition of import or export duties, which might seem to be an obvious source of revenue, would in fact have a disastrous effect on the trade of the Colony. At the same time we were well aware that even British Government Departments have been known to be very short-sighted when pressed by the Treasury to find money to meet a deficit. Everyone expected that there would be a deficit if Aden was to have even half what she needed so badly—hence the insistence of the Arabs led by Mackawwi on this guarantee.

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

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to bankruptcy than they were already, but to provide, by saving on administration costs and by levying a realistic export duty on cotton lint, an income sufficient to pay for the Federal Authorities and for subventions to the States to compensate them for their loss of customs revenue. Careful examination of the details of the scheme proved conclusively that it was a practical proposition. At the present time all tobacco, cigarettes and petroleum products imported into the Colony and subsequently exported by land to the Protectorate pay full Colony duty or excise and no drawback is granted. Once the Federal Authorities had been established there was no practical reason why the Colony should not be asked to grant a customs drawback on goods subject to Colony taxation re-exported by land to the Protectorate. This would enable the Federal Authorities to impose their own import duty and increase their revenue without the consumers being adversely affected.

[651] •

One further question which required consideration was where the Councils should meet. At least one previous attempt to bring the Western Protectorate States into closer relationship had failed because the meetings between the Rulers had been held in the State of the then most important and advanced Ruler. Prestige and jealousy reared their ugly heads in no time. I did not intend that that mistake should again be made. The obvious place for the Western Federation was the Colony, at any rate, in the beginning until something in the nature of a Canberra could be agreed upon, or brought into being, where accommodation for meetings and for the delegates was available and where inter-State jealousy would be avoided. In the Eastern Protectorate the meetings would have to take place in Mukalla in spite of the very real drawback occasioned by the smaller States' fear of Quaiti domination. There was no alternative; the Colony was too far away even with the improved communications.

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This then was, in brief outline, the Federation scheme which was laid before the Rulers at Government House in January 1954. The meeting was well attended by the Western Protectorate Rulers whose only absentees of note were the Haushabi Sultan, always a trifle weird, who was having a dispute with

G.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office C-3 (1368) 1940 MAll Aden MAG

Dhow Building

Dhows are built at Maala by a number of Hadhrami merchants settled in Aden. They turn out about seven vessels a year, the average carrying capacity of which is about 200 tons. The dhows are constructed of Indian teak from the Malabar coast and are well built and fast. They sail to India (Bombay and the Malabar coast) and to the East African coast as well as to neighbouring Arabian ports, and take a large share in local trade, in spite of the competition of the coasting steamers of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw & Brothers and of Monsieur A. Besse (Halal Shipping Company). Monsieur Besse now maintains a fleet of dhows in addition to his motor vessels. Many of these dhows are equipped with auxiliary engines

Soap Manufacturing

A soap manufacturing industry started by Monsieur Besse in December, 1932, at Maala is progressing satisfactorily. The soap is manufactured by boiling coconut oil and cold processes. Local labour of 40 men is employed, and the output is about 50 cases daily, each case containing 200 cakes, which are disposed of locally or exported to the Red Sea Ports.

Dyeing

There are three factories which do business in dyeing cloth and each employs on an average about 60 persons daily. There are in addition about 18 dyers who do business on a small scale. The dyed goods are mainly exported to Mombasa, Mogadiscio, Mamoura, Hodeidah, and the interior of Arabia.

Cigarette Making

The cigarette industry is conducted on a fairly large scale by Jews and Greeks with tobacco imported from Egypt.

VII.—COMMERCE

Customs

Aden being a free port, there are no customs duties.

Trade

The trade of Aden is entirely transhipment as this port is a centre for trade between all ports of the world and the neighbouring territories. The principal business is in skins, hides, coffee, cotton piece goods, grain and pulse, sugar, spices, oils, tobacco, gums, shells and salt. The total value of the seaborne trade in the year under report (12 months January to December, 1938) exclusive of transhipment cargo, was Rs. 12,36,02,203 (imports Rs. 8,22,27,766, and exports Rs. 4,13,84,437), showing a decrease of Rs. 42,97,818 as compared

G.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 M3fl Aden [illegible]

tary arrangements, was begun under the aegis of the Aden Settlement in 1943, and this policy is being continued by Government.

During the war and for a period afterwards, for a variety of reasons (principally large military constructional works, increase in the strength of the Garrison, and famine in the hinterland), the floating population increased considerably, and in the absence of proper accommodation were perforce allowed to construct and live in *barsha* huts in specially demarcated areas.

While control is exercised as far as is possible to prevent epidemics these are slum areas, which can only be cleared by Government building several hundred working-class houses at a sub-economic rent; areas for this purpose are being reserved under the Town Planning Scheme.

The Town Planning Scheme is gradually taking shape, but in the absence of adequate trained staff, the work can only make slow progress.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND RELIEF

There are no social insurance schemes in Aden Colony.

A Government social welfare organisation is being built up gradually, but has been handicapped through lack of staff. A Poor Relief Committee, financed partly through public subscriptions, but notably through Government which contributes Rs. 30,000 per annum, dispenses relief to the aged and infirm. A voluntary committee also collects materials and funds, especially for children's welfare.

There are no social welfare officers or probation officers at present: the appointment of a social welfare officer has been approved, but he has not yet been appointed. An Assistant Welfare Officer who was trained in the United Kingdom arrived in December, 1947, and has taken up his duties.

Chapter 8: Legislation

Twenty-seven Ordinances were passed during the year 1948, of which the following are the more important:

Income Tax (Relief Amendment) Ordinance, 1948, No. 3, which gives family relief in respect of one wife and not more than four children. The loss involved by this concession has been provided against by increasing taxation in the higher grades.

Prisons (Amendment) Ordinance, 1948, No. 4, which carries out the recommendation of a locally appointed Prison Reform Committee by reducing the number of prison offences which are punishable with whipping.

Widows' and Orphans' Pensions (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance, 1948, No. 19, which provides *inter alia* that a certain class of employee of the Aden Port Trust shall be eligible to contribute.

Aden Protectorate Levies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1948, No. 20, which provides for the grant of pensions to native officers and enlisted clerks.

Appeals to the Court of Appeal Ordinance, 1948, No. 22, which

3 Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 MM1 Aden MM1

Subsidiary coins are legal tender for sums not exceeding one rupee. Indian Government currency notes are in circulation—the denominations being Rs. 5, Rs. 10, Rs. 50 and Rs. 100.

The Finance Officer of the Colony is the local Currency Authority but the National Bank of India, Limited, who are the Government Bankers, co-operate with Government in all currency matters, the withdrawal of unserviceable notes and coinage and the provision of new currency being arranged through them.

Weights and Measures

The Imperial weights and measures and certain Indian weights are in common use. For instance, the Indian Tola, which is equivalent to approximately half an ounce, is at present used as a unit of weight for inland postal purposes, but its use will probably be discontinued in the near future. There is a local "maund" weight of 28 lbs., as compared with the Bombay maund which is about 80 lbs.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION

The Colony, as such, came into being on the 1st April, 1937, and the financial year runs from the 1st April to the 31st March. The figures of actual revenue and expenditure for the first year, 1937/38, and the revised estimates for 1938/39 are as follows:—

Revenue

	Actual 1937–38.	*Revised Estimates 1938–39.*
	Rs.	Rs.
Duties, Taxes and Licences	10,19,774	9,60,000
Fees and Receipts for Government services	1,43,175	1,20,000
Contributions and Reimbursements ...	3,69,494	3,94,000
Posts and Telephones	6,59,573	4,00,000
Miscellaneous	60,580	16,000
	22,52,396	18,90,000

Expenditure

	Rs.	Rs.
Recurrent	15,52,570	16,09,000
Extraordinary ...	1,44,407	1,34,000
	16,96,977	17,43,000
Surplus	5,55,619	1,47,000

The principal decrease in revenue is under Posts and Telephones, receipts from the sale of stamps having been exceptionally heavy in

3:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 MMI Aden MMI

the year 1937–38 owing to the new issues introduced on the inauguration of the Colony and in connection with the Coronation. The marked reduction in miscellaneous revenue is due to the closing down of the Perim Coal Company, from which special revenue amounting to over Rs. 40,000 was received in the previous year. 651 652

The variations on the expenditure side are of a minor nature and call for no special comment. The Extraordinary expenditure is entirely in respect of public works.

It is anticipated that the Colony's accumulated surplus at the close of the year 1938–39 will be in the region of Rs. 3,20,000 as shown below :—

		Rs.
Deficit taken over as at the 1st April, 1937		3,82,170
	Rs.	
Actual Surplus for 1937–38	5,55,619	
Estimated surplus for 1938–39	1,47,000	
		7,02,619
Estimated surplus as at the 31st March, 1939		3,20,449

Public Debt

The Colony has no public debt.

Taxation

The main source of revenue is Income Tax, which is levied under the Income Tax Ordinance, 1937. The net proceeds in the year 1937–38 amounted to Rs. 5,90,700. 651

There are no Customs Duties, but drugs, intoxicating liquors and perfumed spirits are required to be deposited in the Excise Warehouse and are released on payment of the appropriate duty. The revenue for 1937–38 from such Excise Duties totalled Rs. 2,02,857.

The only other taxation measure of any importance is the tax on salt produced locally and exported or sold for local consumption. The present rate of tax is 8 annas per ton and the revenue in the last financial year amounted to Rs. 1,33,200.

The revenue derived from the taxation of motor vehicles accrues to the Aden Settlement, which body undertakes the maintenance and improvement of roads.

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS

Port Administration

The Port of Aden, which affords safe accommodation for vessels up to 33 feet in draught (vessels of deeper draught can be handled by working the tides) is administered by a Board of Trustees constituted under the Aden Port Trust Act, V of 1888. The Board is at present composed of three officials including the Chairman, who is also Chairman of the Aden Settlement, and seven non-officials. 647 504

2 Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 MM1 Aden MM1

647 The Trustees are appointed by the Governor for a period of two years.
584 Vacancies during this period are also filled by the Governor.

The minimum depth of water at low tide available in the Approach Channel and Inner Mooring Basin, except the four deep water berths, is 32 ft. 6 in.; there are five oil berths connected to the land installation by submarine pipe lines; two of these berths have been dredged to a minimum depth of 35 feet at L.W. There are two other berths dredged to a similar depth available for the supply of bunker coal and for general purposes.

The Port Trust maintain a pilot service consisting of one Harbour Master and six pilots.

The Aden Port Trust publish a separate administration report.

Mercantile marine matters are dealt with by the Port Officer. The present incumbent is an Officer of the Royal Indian Navy and is also Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Aden Port Trust Finance

651 The following statement shows the opening and closing balances
652 with actual receipts and expenditure for the year ending 31st March, 1939:—

Opening balance on 1st April, 1938 ...	Rs.	7,68,687	8 11
Receipts for the year 1938–39	Rs.	18,59,376	10 9
	Rs.	26,28,064	3 8
Expenditure for the year 1938–39 ...	Rs.	20,00,472	3 9
Closing balance on the 31st March, 1939	Rs.	6,27,591	15 11

Note.—The Port Trust Accounts are maintained for the financial year and not for the calendar year. The above figures are therefore based on the working of the financial year.

Municipal Administration

642 The Municipal Administration of Aden is carried on by the
643 Executive Committee of the Aden Settlement subject to the authority of the Governor under the powers vested in him by the Aden Settlement Regulation VII of 1900 as amended by Regulation V of 1919 and 1927.

Municipal Finance

Revenue

651 No new forms of taxation were introduced in 1938. The revenue of the Aden Settlement Fund for the year 1938 has increased owing to the large import of kat and also to the increase in the number of

3 Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 Aden 515/1

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deck passengers who entered the Fortress by sea, paying temporary registration fees and further to the receipts from Markets and Zariba fees.

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue for the years 1934-38. As the period under report commences from 1st January to 31st December no comparison can be made between this period and the revenue of the previous four years.

No.	Principal sources of revenue.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	Five Nine months from 1st April to 31st December, 1937.	1938.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1.	Taxes	3,65,035	3,88,483	4,08,711	3,58,001	4,08,615
2.	Licences	47,421	43,837	48,690	34,035	30,363
3.	Permits	13,604	14,034	18,019	11,413	16,866
4.	Rents	71,337	74,883	82,068	64,330	81,073
5.	Fees	76,917	90,091	1,08,960	87,581	1,17,497
6.	Sales	3,090	3,880	4,314	2,011	4,808
7.	Royalties	46,586	63,133	70,563	48,500	42,000
8.	Miscellaneous receipts such as contributions grants and interest on investments, etc., etc.	32,098	39,780	34,837	43,103	77,134

Municipal Debt

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A loan of Rs. 3,90,000/- was obtained from the Aden Port Trust at an interest of 4½ per cent. per annum in February, 1935, in order to repay the balance of the loan from the Indian Government at an interest of 6 per cent. per annum in connection with the Water and Drainage Schemes.

A regular Sinking Fund is being maintained towards the repayment of the Port Trust Loan.

Expenditure

The following table shows the expenditure for the years 1934-38. As the period under report commences from 1st January to 31st December, no comparison can be made between this period and the expenditure of the previous four years.

G.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office C-3 (1937) 1939 MMI Aden MMI

Dyeing.

There are three factories which do business in dyeing cloth and each employs on an average about 60 persons daily. There are in addition about 18 dyers who do business on a small scale. The dyed goods are mainly exported to Mombasa, Mogadiscio, Massowa, Hodeidah, and the interior of Arabia.

Cigarette Making.

The cigarette industry is conducted on a fairly large scale by Jews and Greeks with tobacco imported from Egypt.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Customs.

Aden being a free port, there are no customs duties.

Trade.

The trade of Aden is mainly transhipment, as the port is a centre for trade between all ports of the world and the neighbouring territories. The principal business is in skins, hides, coffee, cotton piece goods, grain and pulse, sugar, spices, oils, tobacco, gums, shells, and salt. The total value of the sea-borne trade in the year under report (12 months January to December 1937), exclusive of transhipment cargo, was Rs.12,58,94,031 (imports Rs.8,03,85,836 and exports Rs.4,55,08,195), showing an increase of Rs.1,57,28,773 as compared with the total of Rs.11,01,75,258 (imports and exports for the previous official year—12 months, April, 1936 to March, 1937—imports Rs.6,87,27,900 and exports Rs.4,14,47,358). Merchandise increased by Rs.79,67,977, and treasure increased to Rs.77,50,796.

The increase of Rs.79,67,977 in merchandise was mainly in grain and pulse, hides and skins, coal, oils, vehicles, tea, gums, and salt. The increase of Rs.77,50,796 in treasure was due to transactions in imports and exports of Maria Theresa dollars, in which there was considerable speculation.

The Trade Registration Department was formerly a branch of the Aden Port Trust Revenue Department, but on the recommendation of Mr. J. Sladen, who was deputed to Aden in the year 1906 on special duty, it was separated from the 1st April, 1907, and became a Government department. The department is however supervised by the Secretary, Aden Port Trust.

The old Qafilah office at Barrier Gate, where the registration of inland trade is conducted, was taken over by the Government from the Aden Port Trust in 1910 and subsequently converted into an office and quarters for the Qafilah clerk in 1914.

The following statement shows the total value of the imports and exports sea-borne trade of Aden for the last five years.

4 Gt. Brit., Colonial Office, G-8 (1937) 1939 MMI Aden MMI

Currency.

The monetary unit is the Indian rupee (silver) and is legal tender for any amount. The subsidiary Indian coins are:—

Silver—
Half rupee.
Quarter rupee.
Nickel—
Four annas piece.
Two annas piece.
One anna piece.
Bronze—
Single pice (¼ anna).
One pie piece (1-12th anna).

Subsidiary coins are legal tender for sums not exceeding one rupee. Indian Government currency notes are in circulation—the denominations being Rs.5, Rs.10, Rs.50, and Rs.100.

Prior to the transfer of Aden to the control of the Colonial Office the Government of India maintained a Currency Reserve in Aden. The reserve as it stood on the 1st April, 1937, was allowed to remain in Aden to meet the requirements of the Royal Air Force against payment to the Government of India in London. The reserve was reduced to about Rs.6 lakhs by the end of 1937 and will soon be exhausted. When it is exhausted, the provision of currency in Aden will be arranged through the banks. The Government, however, will take steps to see that both the coinage and notes in circulation are kept in good condition.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial weights and measures are in common use, as also are certain Indian weights. For instance, in the Post Office inland letters are exchanged at so much per *tola*: foreign letters, however, are weighed by the ounce. A *tola* is the weight of a freshly minted rupee, *i.e.*, 0·4114 of an ounce. Eighty *tolas*=1 *seer* and 40 *seers*=1 Bombay *maund* (about 80 lb.). There is, however, a local *maund* which is only 28 lb.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

As the Colony only came into existence on the 1st April, 1937, the figures of revenue and expenditure for the first financial year are not yet available. The approved and revised estimates for 1937-8 are as follows:—

Revenue.

	Approved Estimates.	Revised Estimates.
	Rs.	Rs.
Duties, Taxes, etc.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Court Fees and Government Services ...	[illegible]	[illegible]
Reimbursements	[illegible]	[illegible]
Posts and Telephones	[illegible]	[illegible]
Miscellaneous	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]

4-Gt. Brit. . Colonial Office G-3 (1937) 1939 MM1 Aden MM1

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EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.	Rs.
Recurrent	1,586,244	1,597,000
Extraordinary	73,200	160,000
	1,659,444	1,757,000

It will be observed that the chief revenue increase is under Posts and Telephones and the item responsible for this is the sale of stamps to collectors and dealers, both the new issue introduced on the inauguration of the Colony and the Coronation issue.

653 652 The increase under Extraordinary Expenditure arises out of the necessity to build quarters for the Chief Justice, the Legal Adviser and the Education Officer.

652 The surplus for the year 1937/38 will be just over Rs.3 lakhs, which will practically wipe out the excess of liabilities taken over from the Government of India. It is estimated that the financial year 1938/39 will open with assets just about balancing the liabilities.

Public Debt.

The Colony has no public debt.

Taxation.

651 The main source of revenue is Income Tax which is levied under the Income Tax Ordinance 1937. In the case of every company and registered firm the rate is two annas and four and a sixth pies in the rupee; in the case of individuals, etc., the rate varies from six and a half pies in the rupee on incomes over Rs.2,000 to two annas and four and a sixth pies in the rupee on incomes over Rs.100,000. In respect of the excess of total income over a specified figure which varies from Rs.30,000 to Rs.75,000 according to the circumstances. Supertax is also charged.

There are no customs duties, but there is an excise duty on intoxicating liquors.

The production of salt is subject to a tax which is collected when the commodity is exported or sold for local consumption. Practically the whole of the salt tax revenue is derived from salt exported to India and the Far East. The tax on salt so exported is 8 annas per ton.

4:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1937) 1939 MM1 Aden MM1

The revenue derived from the taxation of motor vehicles accrues to the Aden Settlement, which body undertakes the maintenance and improvement of roads. 651

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Port Administration.

The Port of Aden, which affords safe accommodation for vessels up to 33 feet in draught (vessels of deeper draught can be handled by working the tides) is administered by a Board of Trustees constituted under the Port Trust Act V of 1888. The Board is at present composed of four officials including the Chairman, who is also Chairman of the Aden Settlement, and seven non-officials. The Trustees are appointed by the Governor for a period of two years. 647 504

The minimum depth of water at low tide available in the approach channel and inner mooring basin except the four deep-water berths is 32′ 6″; there are four oil-berths connected to the land installation by submarine pipe-lines, and two have been dredged to a minimum depth of 35 feet at L.W. There are two other berths dredged to a similar depth available for the supply of bunker coal and for general purposes. 504

The Port Trust maintain a pilot service consisting of one Harbour Master and five pilots. 502

The Aden Port Trust publish a separate administration report. 647

Mercantile marine matters are dealt with by a Port Officer. The present incumbent is an officer of the Royal Indian Navy and is also Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Aden Port Trust Finance.

Statement showing the opening and closing balances with actual receipts and expenditure for the year ending the 31st March, 1938:—

	Rs.
Opening Balance on the 1st April, 1937	03,18,321
Receipts for the year 1937–38	36,30,398
	41,49,119
Expenditure for the year 1937–38	30,17,871
Closing Balance on the 31st March, 1938	31,31,248

Note.—The Port Trust Accounts are maintained for the financial year and not for the calendar year. The above figures are therefore based on the working of the financial year.

S Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden MM1

foodstuffs available to the public at cheap, and in the case of flour at subsidised, prices. The position of entrepot goods, particularly textiles, fluctuated during the year. At the beginning of the year the position was difficult but supplies of American textiles and later of Japanese and Chinese textiles enabled the merchants to re-establish this trade, which was assisted as much as possible by the ready granting of re-export licences to countries within Aden's economic orbit.

There was an increase in the cost of living during the year though a slight fall occurred latterly. The increase was accounted for mostly by an increase in prices in common articles imported from outside. For instance, rice rose from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per pally owing to the imposition of an export tax by the Government of Egypt, and soap increased from 4 annas a cake to 6 annas. It must be borne in mind, however, that the consumption of the various articles which together make up the cost-of-living figures have altered greatly since 1939, consumers switching from one kind of foodstuff to another, depending on supplies available, and spending a smaller proportion of their money on articles, such as clothing, which have so greatly risen in price.

Colony Finances

The Colony opened the financial year on 1st April, 1947, with a surplus balance of about Rs. 190 lakhs. During the year it was estimated that the balance would be increased by another Rs. 13 lakhs. Consequently the surplus balance on 1st April, 1948, should be in the region of Rs. 203 lakhs. This figure is exclusive of Rs. 100 lakhs, which is in the Reserve Fund. The total net assets of the Colony therefore amount to over Rs. 300 lakhs (or £23 million sterling).

This is probably the high-water mark of the Colony's surplus. During 1948–49 it is proposed to spend Rs. 23 lakhs more than will be received in revenue. This will reduce the surplus balance at the end of the new financial year to about Rs. 180 lakhs. The deficit in the 1948–49 Budget will arise entirely from the implementation of a part of the Development Programme; in other words, the deficit will be the result of capital expenditure. Revenue still balances recurrent expenditure despite the repeal of the excess profits tax, but the margin is now very small.

Customs and Excise Department

The work of the Department continued on normal lines during 1947, and there was no falling off in the collection of excise duties, which amount to about 15 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony.

Taxes on Income

The collection of revenue from income tax and excess profits tax continued to be satisfactory in spite of heavy excess profits tax refunds made on account of deficiency of profits.

The following legislation was enacted during the year:

(1) The Excess Profits Tax Ordinance No. 9 of 1947, which provides that the tax shall not be chargeable on profit earned after 1st May, 1947.

S:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-S (1947) 1949 MD61 Aden M/M

651 (2) The Income Tax Ordinance No. 11 of 1947 which makes provision for relief from double taxation. Arrangements have already been made with the United Kingdom Government to make this provision operative between the two Governments from 1st April, 1947.

Treasury

652 The work of the Treasury Department continued along usual lines during 1947. During the year, however, the Treasury was made responsible for the maintenance of accounts and calculation of pensions in connection with the newly established Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Fund.

Trade Registration

659 Since the economic crisis the Trade Registration Department was expanded in order to comply with the request of the Secretary of State for the Colonies that accurate and prompt figures of Aden's trade returns should be available.

INDUSTRY

Salt

439 During the war the salt industry was handicapped by the lack of tonnage to ship local produce to India and other places. Even in 1946 the position had not materially improved, as only about 90,000 tons were shipped, but 1947 brought increased prosperity to the industry. Exports totalled over 300,000 tons, or over three times the 1946 figure. Much of this was coarse salt shipped to Japan under a contract with the United Kingdom Government.

Fisheries

654 The Fisheries Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies visited the Colony and the Protectorate in the early part of the year; he came to the conclusion that the waters of the Gulf of Aden showed great promise of early development.

As a result of this visit and in view of the urgent need for increased production of food and other fish products, the Secretary of State despatched to Aden a small team of experts to investigate the best methods of increasing the output of the local and Protectorate fisheries and the suitability of the local types of fish for canning and processing. The cost of this expedition is being met by a free grant under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. The team was accompanied by the Government Fisheries Officer who will continue to advise Government on fisheries development when the other experts have completed their work.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Education

658 871 The new Director of Education arrived in the Colony from Eritrea on 3rd November, 1947.

The demand for educational facilities continued to increase, but diffi-

G. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1948 M321 Aden M/M

Clairways, and the French Government to operate a number of scheduled local services. Numerous charter flights were allowed.

Port Trust

The activity of the port continued to increase. Receipts under all budget heads were expected to exceed the estimates and, in some cases, by a considerable margin. It is too early to judge what effect the economic crisis may have on the port.

The supply of coal for bunkers continued to exceed pre-war figures by a large margin. The supply of oil-fuel for bunkers also exceeded pre-war figures.

Plans and estimates were undertaken for an extension of Maalla Wharf for lease to private interests and an order was placed in the United Kingdom for a small grab dredger.

Eighteen new harbour buoys were ordered from the United Kingdom and further anchors and mooring chains will be obtained in order to provide additional berths and modernise existing berths; provision is being made to accommodate vessels of greater length. The s.s. *Ile de France* visited Aden on several occasions. She is by far the largest vessel ever berthed at the port, her dimensions being 790 feet in length and over 34 feet in draught.

Posts and Telephones

There was a further increase in post office business during the year and accrued revenue was nearly two and a half times that earned in the last pre-war year.

There was a small increase in the transit mail services on behalf of the Somali Coast countries and Eritrea. Parcel mails in each direction between Aden and the United Kingdom were as extensively used as in 1946, and there was a slight increase in the number of gift parcels despatched from Aden to the United Kingdom.

There was a marked improvement in the frequency and in the time of transit of surface mails to and from India and Great Britain. Steadily increasing use was made of air mail services between Aden and overseas countries.

On 31st March, 1947, the pre-war Empire "All Up" air mail scheme, which had been suspended since the outbreak of war in 1939, was abandoned by agreement of all participating countries, and was replaced by a new system of surcharged air mail and light letters. The annual subsidy to the Empire Air Mail Scheme was discontinued and from 1st April payment for the carriage of air mails was made by each postal administration in accordance with prescribed conveyance rates based on weight and mileage.

New air mail postage rates were introduced from 1st July. Substantial reductions were made in the rates for surcharged air mail to all countries and the light air letter rates were retained with a maximum of six annas to Empire countries.

Telephone development was completely checked by the delay in the

5:Gt. Brit. . Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden M/M1

• 651

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Statement of Revenue for 1946–47 as compared with the Revenue of the two previous years

	1946–47 Rs.	1945–46 Rs.	1944–45 Rs.
1. Direct Taxes. . .	44,33,434	59,44,407	52,99,985
2. Customs and Excise .	22,18,674	18,58,189	17,46,947
3. Stamps and Licenses .	5,34,891	5,44,097	2,11,893
4. Receipts for or in aid of specific Government Services . . .	7,05,990	6,34,710	2,55,209
5. Contribution and Local Reimbursements . .	2,15,670	2,29,917	3,47,965
6. Reimbursements by His Majesty's Government	2,57,036	2,47,027	2,58,578
7. Post and Telephones .	9,46,785	6,33,211	6,23,700
8. Miscellaneous. . .	11,19,402	7,90,499	5,21,402
9. Water Supply . .	7,01,587	7,02,787	—
10. Electricity Supply . .	11,38,254	10,10,567	—
11. Land Sales . . .	14,049	27,301	—
TOTAL Rs. . .	1,22,85,772	1,26,22,712	92,65,619

Main Heads of Taxation:	*Estimated yield in 1947–48* Rs.
1. Taxes on Income	18,00,000
2. Excess Profit Tax	8,00,000
3. Excise Duties and Tobacco Tax (Excise duties on spirits, beer, wines and tobacco) . . .	12,00,000
4. House Property Tax (ranging from 8 per cent. to a per cent of rateable value on all house property in the Colony)	2,03,000
5. Sanitation Tax (ranging from 4½ per cent. to 2 per cent. of rateable value of all house property in the the Colony)	1,13,000
6. Motor Spirit Tax (at the rate of 6 as. per gallon on all motor spirit imported)	2,50,000
7. Qat Tax (at Rs. 2/1/0 per 20 lb. on all qat entering the Colony)	1,70,000
8. Salt Tax (4 as. per ton on salt exported) . .	70,886

5.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MMI Aden MM

Customs Tariff and Excise Duties

There is no general customs tariff in Aden, but taxes are levied on alcoholic liquor, tobacco and motor spirit. The principal rates of duty are given below.

Beer and other Fermented Liquors at Rs. 2.1.0 per gallon.
Spirits, potable, at Rs. 44 per gallon of the strength of London proof.
Wines at Rs. 5.10.0 per gallon.
Sparkling Wines at Rs. 9.14.0 per gallon.
Perfumed Spirits at Rs. 16 per gallon.
Cigarettes at Rs. 1.8.0 to Rs. 4.8.0 per thousand, according to their selling price.
Manufactured Tobacco at As. 14 to Rs. 1.2.0 per lb.
Unmanufactured Indian Tobacco at Rs. 1.12.0 per 28 lb.
Unmanufactured Tobacco other than Indian at 33⅓ per cent. *ad valorem*. Motor spirit at As. 6 per gallon.

ESTATE DUTY

There is no estate duty in Aden. Probates and letters of administration are regulated by the Succession Ordinance No. 9 of 1938.

INCOME TAX AND SUPER TAX

Rates of income tax in force during 1947

	Rate per Rupee
A. In the case of every individual, Hindu undivided family, unregistered firm and other association of individuals not a registered firm or a company:	
1. Where the total income does not exceed Rs. 2,000	Nil
2. Where the total income exceeds Rs. 2,000, then—	
(*a*) on the first Rs. 1,500 of such total income	Nil.
(*b*) on the next Rs. 3,500 of such total income	9 p.
(*c*) on the next Rs. 5,000 of such total income	1 a. 3 p.
(*d*) on the next Rs. 5,000 of such total income	2 as.
(*e*) on the balance of such total income	2 as. 6 p.
Provided that where the income tax so calculated exceeds half the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 2,000, the income tax payable shall be half the amount by which such total income exceeds Rs. 2,000.	(In place of Sec. 17 of the Income Tax Ordinance, now repealed.)
Surcharge at one-fourth of the income-tax is leviable if the total income exceeds Rs. 10,000 per annum provided the surcharge does not exceed half the amount of excess over Rs. 10,000.	
B. In the case of every registered firm and company, whatever its total income	2 as. 6 p. plus surcharge at one-fourth of the tax.

5:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MAI Aden MM|

New rates of super tax:

151 A. In the case of every individual, Hindu undivided family, unregistered firm and other association of persons, not being a company

	Rate per Rupee	
1. On the first Rs. 25,000 of total income	Nil	Plus surcharge at one-fourth of the tax.
2. On the next Rs. 10,000 of total income	1 an.	
3. On the next Rs. 20,000 of total income	2 an.	
4. On the next Rs. 70,000 of total income	3 an.	
5. On the next Rs. 75,000 of total income	4 an.	
6. On the next Rs. 1,50,000 of total income	5 an.	
7. On the next Rs. 1,50,000 of total income	6 an.	
8. On the balance of total income	7 an.	

B. In the case of every company
On the whole of total income — 1 a. plus surcharge at one-fourth of the tax.

Note. Surcharge on income-tax and super-tax was 25 per cent. on all assessments to be made from 1st April, 1947 (with effect from Assessment Year 1947–48) and it is abolished from Assessment Year 1948–49.

The rate of excess profits tax chargeable during the Assessment Year 1947–48 was 60 per cent. from 1st January, 1946, on excess profits made up to 31st December, 1946. The tax has been abolished on profits earned from 1st January, 1947.

Under the Income Tax (Relief Amendment) Ordinance, No. 3 of 1948, the exemption limit is raised from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 4,000 and it further provides for income tax relief in respect of families up to the maximum of Rs. 5,400. A table showing rates of taxes at various levels payable by a single man and married men with families is shown below:

TABLE OF INCOME TAX PAYABLE BY INDIVIDUALS AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF INCOME

For a single-man: free income Rs. 4,000 (£300).

Gross Income	*Tax in £*
£100	Nil
200	Nil
300	Nil
400	£4 14 0
500	9 8 0
600	15 3 0
700	23 1 0
800	30 17 6
900	38 13 0
1,000	49 8 0
1,500	123 13 0
2,000	227 3 0
3,000	522 1 0
5,000	1,277 19 0
7,500	2,332 12 0
10,000	3,436 2 0

TABLE OF TAX PAYABLE BY INDIVIDUALS AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF INCOME (ADEN COLONY)

For a married man / Family relief up to Sh. 5,400 (£300)

Further Relief	£100	£150	£200	£250	£300	£350	£400	£450	£500	£600	£700	£800	£900	£1,000	£1,200	£1,400	£1,600
					£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Married man without children . . Sh. 5,400 (£300) Tax payable	—	—	—	—	2 7	7 1	11 10	19 9	28 10	51 15	80 10	120 1	167 10	228 10	390 10	590 0	830 0
Married man with one child . . Sh. 6,000 (£330) " "	—	—	—	—	—	2 10	9 4	18 6	32 2	59 17	92 10	134 10	179 10	239 10	399 0	599 10	839 10
Married man with two children . . Sh. 6,600 (£365) " "	—	—	—	—	—	11	6 7	16 1	29 9	51 1	76 6	112 11	155 11	215 11	375 4	575 14	815 14
Married man with three children . . Sh. 7,200 (£400) " "	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 13	7 8	21 13	42 [illegible]	67 14	101 9	143 9	203 9	362 18	562 8	802 8
Married man with four children . . Sh. 7,800 (£435) " "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 3	9 3	33 17	59 5	89 [illegible]	131 [illegible]	191 [illegible]	350 [illegible]	550 [illegible]	790 [illegible]

159

S.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden MM1

681 The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows:

Imprisonment with or without fine	928
Whipping	23
Fine only	5,513

691 Four hundred and fifty-seven applications for maintenance were made in the magistrates' Courts. In 306 cases orders for maintenance were granted, and in the remaining cases maintenance was disallowed.

692 The magistrates are required to submit monthly returns of the criminal cases decided in their courts on the same lines as in East Africa. This system has kept the Supreme Court in close touch with the current work of the Magistrates' Courts and enables due supervision to be effected. Magistrates are also required to submit to the Supreme Court for inspection the record of any case in which a sentence of corporal punishment is awarded.

REGISTRATION

617 The Registration Department is in charge of the Registrar of Documents, who is also Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages for the Colony of Aden.

693 During the year under review, His Honour the Judge of the Supreme Court was in charge of the offices referred to above.

Registration of Testamentary and Non-Testamentary Documents

The total number of documents presented during 1947 was 443.

Thirty applications for copies, searches and inspections were received, and disposed of. The number of visits paid by the Sub-Registrar to private residences was 39.

Registration of Firms

Nineteen applications for registration of firms under the Partnership Ordinance, 1939, were received.

Bills of Exchange

The total number of Bills of Exchange noted and protested under the Bills of Exchange Ordinance, 1941, was 30.

Income

651 The total income from registration documents and firms and notarial charges was Rs. 7,984.

POLICE

674 Serious crime remained about the same as in the previous year. The acid-throwing attack in August, 1947, on the Matron of the Civil Hospital,

5:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden MM1

	1936 Million gallons	1941 Million gallons	1947 Million gallons
Total water raised from boreholes	205	353	578
Water consumed by civil population	45	115	181
Water sold to shipping	18	65	52
Water consumed by military	25	96	120
Water used in gardens	76	52	114
Other purposes, including water unaccounted for	41	25	111

As no census was taken in Aden between 1931 and 1946, reliable figures of the average daily consumption per head of the civil population for 1936 and 1941 cannot be given. The figure based on the 1946 census is 93 gallons per head per day.

The water is pumped direct from the boreholes into reservoirs, and gravitates through a 15-inch diameter pipeline 7 miles in length into the Isthmus, where it is pumped into service reservoirs, and distributed to the various parts of the Colony by gravitational mains, of which there are over 26 miles of 2½-inches diameter and above. The total capacity of the reservoirs in the Colony is 2,850,000 gallons.

All supplies are metered, and at the end of 1947 over 4,400 domestic water meters were in use. Four hundred and one new connections were given in 1946.

The cost of water to the general public is 4 annas less 10 per cent. per 100 gallons (approximately 3s. 3d. per thousand gallons). The revenue derived from the sale of water during 1947 was Rs. 6,84,250 (£51,318) and the total expenditure Rs. 5,98,670 (£44,901).

Seven per cent. of the total water used by the general public is supplied free of charge from 26 standposts erected in various parts of the Colony.

Although the water at source is of a very high standard of purity bacteriologically, it is automatically chlorinated to combat any possible pollution through dust or any other agency.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The water-works department is also responsible for the construction and maintenance of all sewers in the Colony. All sewage discharges into the sea through five separate sea outfalls taken to just below low-water mark. Except at Sheikh Othman, where small primary settling tanks have been constructed there are no sewage disposal works.

In order to minimise the fouling of the harbour and beaches all water-closets are required to discharge into the sewers through a septic tank, where all solid matter is first liquefied.

Government have approached an eminent London firm of consulting engineers, with a view to the preparation of a complete sewerage scheme for the Colony.

The cleansing of sewers is carried out by the Public Health Department.

per unit for lighting and fans, and 2 annas per unit for refrigerators. The power rates for industrial purposes vary with the amount used, and whether or not condensers are fitted to the motors. The average rate, however, is approximately 2·57 annas per unit. (An anna equals 1·125 pence.)

151 Revenue from all sources in 1947 was Rs. 11,00,000 (£82,500).

152 Accurate figures of expenditure cannot be given at present as the Crown Agents accounts for the latter end of the year have not yet been received, but it is estimated that it will be about £81,000.

Consumers at the end of 1947 numbered 3,069, compared with 2,736 at the same date last year.

OTHER PUBLIC WORKS

Maintenance of Buildings

153 Government owns most of the buildings used for public purposes in the Colony and a large staff is maintained by the Public Works Department in maintaining them in a proper state of repair and carrying out minor improvements.

New Buildings

All new Government buildings were constructed departmentally by direct labour and the principal works completed in 1947 were:

	£
Conversion of an existing office into a Secondary School for boys	3,800
Conversion of an existing barrack in the Armed Police Lines into married quarters	8,000
Alterations to Prison Buildings	1,500
Extension to Office of Public Works Department	3,500
New Slaughter-House and Segregation Stable at Maalla	800
Construction of 40 working-class quarters at Sheikh Othman	9,000
Conversion of Cable and Wireless Building into flats for Government officials	8,700
Garages, tiffin room and store at Secretariat	1,500
Quarter for Police Inspector, Sheikh Othman	650
Quarters for two Police Inspectors, Maalla	700
New Public Bathing Place, Crater	500

Mechanical Workshop

A small mechanical workshop is maintained where all motor transport of the Public Health and Public Works Departments are serviced and repaired. Animal-drawn vehicles such as refuse carts, night-soil tumbler carts, etc., are also made and repaired.

Building Plans

All deposited building plans submitted by the general public are first checked by the P.W.D. and then passed to the respective townships for formal approval.

G.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MMG Aden M.M.

Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Ordinance (No. 23 of 1942)

This legislates trade unions and makes provision for their registration and the audit of their accounts. The English law as regards "intimidation" is followed.

Contracts of Employment (Indigenous Workers) Ordinance (No. 43 of 1942)

This provides for the employment of natives of Asia or Africa and requires contracts of employment for periods over six months to be in writing and approved by an authorised officer. It provides for the repatriation of employees working in other territories.

Labour Ordinance (No. 6 of 1943)

This regulates contracts of employment, requires contracts in writing to be approved by the District Commissioner, and makes provision for deeds of apprenticeship.

There is no old age pension scheme in Aden, but small grants from a Poor Relief Fund are made to the aged destitute.

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Statement of Revenue for 1947–48 as compared with the Revenue of the previous years

	1947–48 Rs.	1946–47 Rs.	1945–46 Rs.
1. Direct Taxation	37,15,064	44,33,434	39,44,497
2. Customs and Excise	25,48,427	22,18,674	18,58,189
3. Stamps and Licences	4,83,761	5,34,891	5,44,097
4. Receipts for or in aid of specific Government Services	4,88,239	7,05,990	6,34,710
5. Contribution and Local Reimbursements	2,13,131	2,13,670	2,09,917
6. Reimbursements by His Majesty's Government	2,60,007	2,57,036	2,47,087
7. Posts and Telephones	9,56,441	9,46,783	6,33,211
8. Miscellaneous	13,23,656	11,19,402	7,90,499
9. Water Supply	6,93,671	7,01,587	7,02,787
10. Electricity Supply	11,72,054	11,38,254	10,10,567
11. Land Sales	1,88,363	14,049	27,321
12. Colonial Development and Welfare Fund	46,667	—	—
TOTAL Rs.	1,21,12,421	1,22,83,771	1,26,22,712

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•651

Main Heads of Taxation (estimated for 1948–49)	Rs.
(1) Taxes on Income	19,00,000
(2) Excise Duties and Tobacco Tax (excise duties on spirit, beer, wines and tobacco)	14,00,000
(3) House Property Tax (ranging from 8 per cent to 2½ per cent of rateable value of all house property in the Colony)	2,25,000
(4) Sanitation Tax (ranging from 4½ per cent to 2½ per cent of rateable value of all house property in the Colony)	1,28,000
(5) Motor Spirit Tax (at the rate of As. 6 per gallon on all motor spirit imported)	3,00,000
(6) Qat Tax (at Rs. 2.1.0 per 20 lb. on all qat entering the Colony)	2,00,000

Statement of approximate Revenue from 1st January, 1948, to 31st December, 1948

Receipts.	*Total* Rs.
1. Direct Taxation	37,24,129
2. Customs and Excise	23,73,851
3. Stamps, Licences, etc.	4,20,149
4. Receipts for or in aid of specific Government Services	9,27,818
5. Contributions and Local Reimbursements	1,53,348
6. Reimbursements by His Majesty's Government	2,19,413
7. Posts and Telephones	10,14,499
8. Miscellaneous	12,40,505
9. Water Supply	6,49,031
10. Electricity Supply	11,52,817
11. Land Sales	34,674
12. Colonial Development and Welfare Fund	46,667
TOTAL Rs.	1,19,56,901

6 Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden M.M1

651

Customs Tariff and Excise Duties

There is no general customs tariff in Aden, but taxes are levied on alcoholic liquor, tobacco and motor spirit. The principal rates of duty are given below:

Beer and other fermented liquors at Rs. 2.1.0 per gallon.
Spirits, potable, at Rs. 44 per gallon of the strength of London proof.
Wines at Rs. 5.10.0 per gallon.
Perfumed spirits at Rs. 16 per gallon.
Cigarettes at Rs. 1.8.0 to Rs. 4.8.0 per thousand, according to their selling price.
Manufactured tobacco at As. 14 to Rs. 1.2.0. per lb.
Unmanufactured Indian tobacco at Rs. 1.12.0 for 28 lb.
Unmanufactured tobacco other than Indian at 33⅓ per cent *ad valorem*.
Motor spirit at As. 6 per gallon.
Methylated spirits at 9 per cent *ad valorem*.

ESTATE DUTY

There is no estate duty in Aden. Probate and letters of administration are regulated by the Succession Ordinance, No. 9 of 1938.

INCOME TAX AND SUPER TAX

Income Tax

A. In the case of every individual, Hindu undivided family, unregistered firm and other association of individuals not being a registered firm or a company:

	Rate per Rupee
1. Where the total income does not exceed Rs. 4,000	Nil
2. Where the total income exceeds Rs. 4,000, then—	
(*a*) on the first Rs. 4,000 of such total income	Nil
(*b*) on the next Rs. 3,500 of such total income	9 p.
(*c*) on the next Rs. 5,000 of such total income	1 a. 3 p.
(*d*) on the next Rs. 5,000 of such total income	2 a.
(*e*) on the balance of such total income . .	3 a.
B. In the case of every registered firm and company, whatever its total income	3 a.

Super Tax

A. In the case of every individual Hindu undivided family, unregistered firm and other association of persons, not being a company:

	Rate per Rupee
1. On the first Rs. 25,000 of total income . .	Nil
2. On the next Rs. 10,000 of total income . .	1 a. 3 p.
3. On the next Rs. 20,000 of total income . .	2 a. 6 p.
4. On the next Rs. 70,000 of total income . .	3 a. 9 p.
5. On the next Rs. 75,000 of total income . .	5 a.
6. On the next Rs. 150,000 of total income . .	6 a. 3 p.
7. On the next Rs. 150,000 of total income . .	7 a. 6 p.
8. On the balance of total income	8 a. 9 p.
B. In the case of every company: On the whole of total income	1 a. 3 p.

TABLE OF TAX PAYABLE BY INDIVIDUALS AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF INCOME

A married man receives Rs. 4,800 (£360) tax free unless [illegible] relief up to Rs. 5,400 (£405)

	Further Relief	£	£	£	£	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
Married man without children	Rs. 3,000 (£225)	—	—	—	—	2 7	7 1	11 15	19 8	30 19	34 15	95 13	200 1	400 19	1,249 16	2,304 10	3,499 9
Married man with one child	Rs. 3,600 (£270)	—	—	—	—	—	2 10	6 4	10 9	21 2	30 13	89 19	134 19	479 13	1,256 15	2,500 9	3,500 19
Married man with two children	Rs. 4,200 (£315)	—	—	—	—	—	14	2 7	10 1	15 6	26 4	76 9	178 14	480 13	1,324 10	2,279 4	3,502 14
Married man with three children	Rs. 4,800 (£343)	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 15	7 6	11 19	19 10	66 14	162 9	467 8	1,313 5	2,297 19	3,571 9
Married man with four children	Rs. 5,400 (£405)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 9	9 5	14 17	61 5	151 6	449 9	1,292 9	2,284 16	3,569 6

S.Co. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 10421 Aden M.M.

651 TABLE OF INCOME TAX PAYABLE BY INDIVIDUALS AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF INCOME

For a single man: free income Rs. 4,000 (£300).

Gross Income	Tax
£100	Nil
200	Nil
300	Nil
400	£4 14 0
500	9 8 0
600	15 5 0
700	23 1 0
800	30 17 0
900	38 13 0
1,000	46 8 0
1,500	123 13 0
2,000	207 3 0
3,000	382 1 0
5,000	1,077 19 0
7,500	2,333 11 0
10,000	3,436 3 0

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

436 The official currency of the Colony is the Indian rupee. Exchange at
453 par is Re. 1 to 1s. 6d.
454 The amount of currency in circulation in December, 1948, was estimated to be:

Coin, Rs. 5,00,000 Paper, Rs. 2,00,00,000

The following banks were operating in Aden:

The National Bank of India Ltd.
The Exchange Bank of India and Africa Ltd.
Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw & Bros.

There is one Savings Bank operated by the Post Office: depositors, 2,565; deposits, Rs. 11,65,004; and capital Rs. 21,42,333. The deposits are invested in gilt-edged securities in London.

Chapter 5: Commerce

439 Apart from the export of salt, the bulk of the trade of Aden falls into two main classes, namely, entrepôt and transhipment.

The raw produce of neighbouring countries is transhipped at Aden to the markets of the world, and manufactured goods arrive at Aden for
000 transhipment to consuming countries in the vicinity. The importance

G.Gl. Brit. . Colonial Office G-8 (1948) 1950 1Gal. Aden M.M1

692 effected. Magistrates are also required to submit to the Supreme Court for inspection the record of any case in which a sentence of corporal punishment is awarded.

REGISTRATION

659 The Registration Department is in charge of the Registrar of Docu-
156 ments, who is also Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages for the Colony of Aden.

During the year under review, His Honour the Judge of the Supreme Court was in charge of the offices referred to above.

Registration of Testamentary and Non-Testamentary Documents

The total number of documents presented during the year under report was 375.

Sixty-seven applications for copies, searches and inspections were received, and disposed of.

The number of visits paid by the Sub-Registrar to private residences was 42.

Registration of Firms

Twenty applications for registration of firms under the Partnership Ordinance, 1939, were received.

Bills of Exchange

The total number of bills of exchange noted and protested under the Bills of Exchange Ordinance, 1941, was 55.

Powers of Attorney

The total number of powers of attorney attested or authenticated was seven.

Income

• 651 The total income for registration of documents, firms and notarial charges was Rs. 6,926.

Duties Performed by the Sub-Registrar

The Sub-Registrar performs the duties of Notary Public, Registrar of Births and Deaths, Registrar of Parsi Marriages, Registrar of Firms, Trade Marks, Patents and Designs, and acts as a Personal Assistant to the Registrar of Documents and the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

POLICE

625 The Police Force has a total strength of 640. The proportion of Police to population is approximately 1 in 125. The Force comprises Aden Arabs, Aden Protectorate Arabs, Indians and Somalis and is officered by members of the Colonial Police Service. It is divided into two distinct units, the Civil Police and the Armed Police. The former perform normal

R.G. Brit. Colonial Office G-8 (1948) 1950 MSG Aden 44 M]

Hadjaff (Lake Thomas), Isthmus (pump house), Khormaksar (new housing estate).

Staff

Difficulty was experienced in obtaining qualified shift engineers and artisans, although many more applied for posts as apprentices in the department. The first to complete his five years' apprenticeship was sent to Kenya to gain further experience with the East Africa Power Co. There was no shortage of unskilled labour or clerks.

General

A Tannoy loud-speaker system was installed for the use of the Information Office at Tawahi, Hadjaff, Maalla and Crater.

The cost of electricity remained the same as in 1947, i.e. at the rate of 3 annas per unit for lighting and fans, and 2 annas per unit for refrigerators. The power rates for industrial purposes vary with the amount used, and whether or not condensers are fitted to the motors. The average rate, however, was approximately 2·37 annas per unit.

Revenue from all sources was Rs. 12,81,805. Accurate figures of expenditure cannot be given at present, as the Crown Agents accounts for the latter part of the year have not yet been received.

Consumers at the end of 1948 numbered 3,411 compared with 3,069 in 1947, with 200 prospective consumers awaiting connections and a further 360 having applied for permission to instal wiring in their premises.

PUBLIC WORKS

Maintenance of Buildings

Government owns most of the buildings used for public purposes in the Colony, and a large staff is maintained by the Public Works Department in maintaining them in a proper state of repair, and carrying out minor improvements.

New Buildings

Practically all new Government buildings are constructed departmentally by direct labour, and the principal works completed in 1948 were:

	£
Quarters	
6 Houses for Senior Government Officials	14,000
Education	
Boys' Primary School, Tawahi	8,600
Class-room and administration office, Secondary School, Crater	9,090
Three additional class-rooms, sports shelter and tuck shop at Boys' School, Sheikh Othman	2,250
Social Welfare	
Working-class dwelling, Sheikh Othman	19,100
Aidrus Valley Housing Scheme	7,150

?: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-8 (1949-50) 1951 M361 Aden

651

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

STATEMENT OF REVENUE FOR 1947-48 TO 1949-50

	1947-48 Rs.	1948-49 Rs.	1949-50 Rs.
1. Direct Taxation ..	37,15,064	30,13,236	42,18,013
2. Customs and Excise	25,48,426	23,55,694	28,66,822
3. Stamps and Licences	4,85,761	4,53,455	5,51,647
4. Receipts for or in aid of Specific Government Services ..	4,88,239	4,78,873	5,09,733
5. Contributions & Local Reimbursements ..	2,13,131	2,11,397	2,12,416
6. Reimbursements by H.M. Government	2,80,897	2,94,185	3,10,792
7. Posts and Telephones	9,96,441	13,38,170	16,91,255
8. Miscellaneous ..	13,23,696	23,40,187	19,42,117
9. Water Supply ..	6,93,671	7,67,920	8,48,142
10. Electricity Supply ..	11,72,954	13,58,901	15,04,659
11. Land Sales	1,68,363	60,872	1,92,017
12. Colonial Development Welfare Fund	46,667	2,73,404	97,020
TOTAL Rs. ..	121,12,421	129,46,294	149,48,632

T: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden

651

Customs Tariff and Excise Duties

There is no general customs tariff in Aden, but taxes are levied on alcoholic liquor, tobacco and motor spirit. The principal rates of duty are:

Beer and other fermented liquors at Rs. 2/1/0 per gallon.
Spirits, potable, at Rs. 44 per gallon of the strength of London proof.
Wines at Rs. 5/10/0 per gallon.
Sparkling wines at Rs. 9/14/0 per gallon.
Perfumed spirit at Rs. 16 per gallon.
Cigarettes at Rs. 2/2/0 to Rs. 6/8/0 per thousand, according to their selling price.
Manufactured tobacco at Rs. 1/3/0 to Rs. 2/6/0 per pound.
Unmanufactured Indian tobacco at Rs. 2/6/0 for 28 lb.
Unmanufactured tobacco other than Indian at 45 per cent *ad valorem*.
Motor spirit at 7 as. 6 p. per gallon.

Estate Duty

There is no estate duty in Aden. Probate and letters of administration are regulated by the Succession Ordinance, No. 9 of 1938.

Income Tax and Super Tax

Income Tax

In the case of every individual, Hindu undivided family, unregistered firm and other association of individuals not being a registered firm or a company:

	Rates per Rupee
(1) Where the total income does not exceed Rs. 4,000	Nil
(2) Where the total income exceeds Rs. 4,000:	
on the first Rs. 4,000 of such total income ..	Nil
on the next Rs. 4,500 of such total income ..	3 p.
on the next Rs. 5,000 of such total income ..	1 a. 3 p.
on the next Rs. 5,000 of such total income ..	2 as.
on the balance of such total income ..	3 as.
In the case of every registered firm and company, whatever its total income ..	3 as.

Super Tax

In the case of every individual, Hindu undivided family, unregistered firm and other association of persons, not being a company:

	Rates per Rupee
on the first Rs. 25,000 of total income	Nil
on the next Rs. 10,000 of total income	1 a. 3 p.
on the next Rs. 20,000 of total income	2 as. 6 p.
on the next Rs. 70,000 of total income	3 as. 9 p.
on the next Rs. 75,000 of total income	5 as. 3 p.
on the next Rs. 1,50,000 of total income	6 as. 6 p.
on the next Rs. 1,50,000 of total income	7 as. 9 p.
on the balance of total income	9 as.
In the case of every company:	
on the whole of total income	1 a. 6 p.

The Township Authorities also collect certain taxes on behalf of the Government and these are listed on pages 53 and 54.

TABLE OF TAX PAYABLE BY INDIVIDUALS AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF INCOME

	Personal Relief	£150	£200	£300	£400	£500	£600	£1,000	£1,500	£2,000	£3,000	£5,000	£10,000
Single men		£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
Married men without children	Rs. 3,600 (£360)	—	2 9	7 1	11 10	19 3	26 19	54 17	90 16	128 1	203 19	1,048 14	2,344 10
Married men with one child ...	Rs. 4,200 (£420)	—	—	3 16	8 4	13 6	21 2	50 10	82 16	124 19	209 18	1,070 17	2,366 9
Married men with two children	Rs. 4,800 (£480)	—	—	0 10	5 7	10 1	18 5	54 4	76 6	122 14	208 13	1,094 10	2,389 4
Married men with three children	Rs. 5,400 (£540)	—	—	—	2 12	7 5	15 10	49 10	69 16	120 9	207 8	1,119 3	2,387 10
Married men with four children	Rs. 6,000 (£600)	—	—	—	—	4 9	9 3	44 17	63 5	115 4	206 3	1,093 8	2,386 14

To: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-9 (1949-50) 1951 NOAC Aden PSPI

746 *Aden Central Poor Relief Fund*

657

Total paid out in 1950	Rs. 48,652
Total persons assisted (not counting dependants)	833
Average monthly relief per recipient (not counting dependants)	Rs. 5
Number of dependants per recipient ..	3
New recipients admitted during the year ..	73
Applicants on waiting list at 31/12/1950 ..	394

747 *Voluntary Societies and Services in Aden* (not including private charities or Church Missions):

Girl Guides' Association.
Ladies' Child Welfare Committee.
King Edward VII Dispensary.
Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis.
Aden Central Poor Relief Committee.
St. John Ambulance Association.
Aden Sports Association.
Aden Boy Scouts' Association.
Aden Women's Voluntary Service.
Students Aid Society.
Sheikh Othman Children's Milk Scheme.

Chapter 8: Legislation

1949

671 During the year the Revised Edition of the Laws was brought into force. It contains the Ordinances in force on 1st January, 1946, the delay in publication was due to the delay in printing and the time taken in indexing.

During the year 17 Ordinances were enacted of which the following were the more important:

661 The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, which provides for increased rates of super-tax.

671 The Income Tax (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance, which amongst numerous amendments, places an obligation on a person within the assessable limits to submit an income tax return whether specially required to do so or not. It further enables the Income Tax Officer to obtain information from a bank as to whether a person has an account there, it requires the keeping of proper books by persons engaged in business, and it allows the Income Tax Officer to specify the language in which books shall be kept.

167 671 The Immigration (Amendment) Ordinance, the principal amendment in which enables the Governor in Council to make rules prescribing the conditions under which persons may be permitted to enter the

1: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 3041 Aden

Parsee merchant was returned without a contest. The election in Crater passed off without incident.

The qualifications for a voter were British birth or Aden residence for over five years, and a property qualification (ownership of premises valued at Rs. 2,000 or payment of a rent of Rs. 25 a month). This was found to give a voters' roll of 1,660, and as this was considered too small an electorate for an estimated population of 70,000 in Fortress area, the qualifications were approximately halved by an amendment to the law in 1950, and now give an electorate of about 5,000. The present qualifications for a voter is Aden birth, or British birth and two years' residence, or foreign birth and five years' residence in Aden. In addition the voter must be a male, and own property worth Rs. 1,000 or pay rent of Rs. 12 a month, or have an income of Rs. 130 a month.

A *candidate* must be of Aden or British birth, and possess the qualifications of a voter.

In Sheikh Othman Township, with a population of some 25,000, the people are not so developed politically, and a fully nominated Authority is retained, with three officials and two Arab residents of Sheikh Othman as members.

The Township Authorities hold fortnightly meetings to superintend various services of a municipal character, such as the control of markets, the maintenance of public health and sanitary services, the maintenance and improvement of roads, the provision of recreation facilities for the Aden public and the control of building operations.

The Township Authorities are responsible, on behalf of the Government, for the collection of the following taxes :

House and Property Tax

Yield in 1949 .. Rs. 2,78,093.
Yield in 1950 .. Rs. 2,90,194

This tax is assessed in the Fortress at 8 per cent per annum of the rateable value and in Sheikh Othman (virtually a rural area) at 4½ per cent. Rateable value is arrived at by first estimating the gross value, which is the annual rent at which premises might reasonably be expected to let, assuming the owner undertakes to bear the cost of rates, repairs, insurance and any other expenses necessary to maintain the premises in a state to command that rent; from the gross value 10 per cent is deducted in lieu of repairs, insurance, etc., and the residue is known as the rateable value.

Sanitation Tax

Yield in 1949 .. Rs. 1,58,830
Yield in 1950 .. Rs. 1,65,477

This tax in the Fortress is assessed at 4½ per cent per annum on the rateable value and in Sheikh Othman at 2¼ per cent and is collected to compensate for the vast conservancy services rendered by the Public Health Department. In Aden where few sewers exist, the daily removal of the sullage water and human waste from thousands of houses not connected to main drainage is a considerable task.

1: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-8 (1949-50) 1951 Miscl. Aden

632 *Qat Tax*

651 Yield in 1949 .. Rs. 2,58,578.
Yield in 1950 .. Rs. 3,55,706.

[276] The tax on qat (a narcotic leaf chewed by the local inhabitants) is collected at the Sheikh Othman Township Office. The tax was assessed at Rs. 1-14-0 per 20 lb., but was increased to Rs. 2-12-0 from January, 1950.

Vehicles

Yield in 1949 .. Rs. 1,739.
Yield in 1950 .. Rs. 1,765.

The Township Authority registers all animal and hand-drawn vehicles and a Registration Fee varying between Rs. 8 and Rs. 12 per annum is charged. Vehicles fitted entirely with rubber tyres are, however registered free of charge in order to encourage the use of rubber tyres so that wear and tear on road surfaces can be decreased. Bicycles are not registered at present.

Motor vehicles are registered by the Police, who collect the taxes, issue licences, etc.

Trade Licences

Yield in 1949 .. Rs. 86,260.
Yield in 1950 .. Rs. 87,063.

Licensing of general traders was introduced during the war as an aid to control, the fee being only Re. 1 a quarter, except for wholesalers and traders in tobacco and dangerous substances, who pay much higher rates.

PORT ADMINISTRATION

504 647 The Port of Aden, which affords safe accommodation for vessels up to 34 feet in draught (vessels of deeper draught can be handled by working the tides), is administered by a Board of Trustees constituted under the Aden Port Trust Act, No. V of 1888. The Board is at present composed of four officials including the Chairman, and eight non-officials. The Trustees, with the exception of the Chairman, are appointed by the Governor for a period of two years. Vacancies during this period are also filled by the Governor.

504 The minimum depth of water at low tide available in the approach channel and the inner mooring basin is 36 feet; there are 19 first-class berths, including 11 oil berths, suitable for large vessels; 5 second-class berths, including 1 oil berth, suitable for vessels of medium size; 8 third-class berths suitable for small vessels. The oil berths are 647 connected to the land installation by submarine pipe line; all berths are available for the supply of bunker coal and general purposes. The 502 Port Trust maintains a pilot service consisting of one Harbour Master

G.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MAIL Aden 99,941

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS, 1952

	Number	Amount of Compensation
Fatal Accident Cases:		
Claimed and settled in Court	5	Sh. 17,584
Pending	4	—
No claim by dependents	7	—
Permanent Partial Disability Cases:		
Settled in Court	17	20,453
Settled out of Court	27	14,879
Closed without award (no permanent injury and other reasons)	101	—
Pending	43	—

Classification by Trades

Accidents on wharfs, on lighters, etc.	85
" in factories and workshops	63
" on buildings under construction	56

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, 1952

Type of employment	Date	Period of Stoppage	Number of men	Man days lost
Factory	January	8 days	144	1,152
Dock Labour	February	2 "	500	1,000
Factory	March	2 "	50	100
Factory	May	1 day	50	50
Dock Labour	June	3 hours	250	90
Dock Labour	October	3 days	150	450
Building Construction	October	3 "	50	150
Building Construction	December	1 day	24	24
			TOTAL	3,016

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

STATEMENT OF REVENUE FOR 1949-50 TO 1951-52

	1951-52 £	1950-51 £	1949-50 £
1. Direct Taxation	702,716	418,607	316,351
2. Customs and Excise	295,206	246,179	215,012
3. Stamps, Licences, etc.	43,871	47,275	41,374
4. Receipt for or in aid of specific Government Services	129,899	44,854	38,230
5. Contributions and Local Reimbursements	27,372	20,784	15,931

B.Gt. Bibl., Colonial Office G-S (1951-52)1954 1042 Aden

651.

	1951-52 £	1950-51 £	1949-50 £
6. Reimbursements by Her Majesty's Government	27,105	35,943	23,309
7. Post and Telephones	150,576	143,767	126,844
8. Miscellaneous	129,594	131,279	141,659
9. Water Supply	74,881	72,789	63,611
10. Electricity Supply	151,913	113,836	112,649
11. Land Sales	20,072	15,593	14,400
12. Receipts under Colonial Development and Welfare Act	16,150	27,004	7,277
	£1,774,233	£1,317,902	£1,130,847

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1949-50 TO 1951-52

	1951-52 £	1950-51 £	1949-50 £
1. Governor	10,707	6,739	8,036
2. Administration	2,262	3,719	4,084
3. Antiquities	287	338	335
4. Audit	9,851	6,463	7,827
5. Civil Aviation	2,683	2,302	—
6. Economic Control	7,634	6,823	10,332
7. Education	78,172	57,408	39,826
8. Excise and Salt	19,085	15,628	20,369
9. Judicial and Registration	11,728	11,056	15,125
10. Labour and Social Welfare	2,159	—	—
11. Legal	3,958	3,685	8,572
12. Legislative Council	644	466	420
13. Medical and Public Health	160,506	140,688	171,764
14. Miscellaneous Services	169,119	41,256	28,634
15. Pensions and Gratuities	33,002	27,407	32,009
16. Ports	7,272	4,735	6,518
17. Police	91,695	88,683	124,587
18. Posts and Telephones	64,011	78,251	95,717
19. Printing Department	14,615	886	—
20. Prisons	8,040	7,658	11,058
21. Public Relations and Information Service	4,326	3,093	3,349
22. Public Works, Water and Drainage	98,779	74,250	69,986
23. Public Works, Electricity	125,315	84,927	80,483
24. Public Works, Recurrent	66,877	13,444	56,874
25. Public Works, Non-Recurrent	77,650	55,666	80,001
26. Secretariat	25,736	21,978	33,251
27. Taxes on Income	16,954	4,098	4,906
28. Township Authority, Aden	30,415	28,310	36,321
29. Township Authority, Sheikh Othman	12,183	12,001	14,930
30. Trade Registration	2,288	2,214	4,023
31. Treasury	13,870	10,476	14,003
32. Veterinary	1,317	1,070	1,333
33. Development Expenditure from Surplus Balances	183,278	233,797	133,652
34. Colonial Development and Welfare Act Schemes	43,320	38,620	22,938
35. Contribution to Development Fund	1,000,000	—	—
	£2,399,520	£1,088,236	£1,200,158

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TAXATION

The main heads of taxation and the yield of each in 1951–52 were : 1951

	£
Taxes on Income	643,561
Excise Duties and Tobacco Tax	182,055
House Property Tax	38,638
Sanitation Tax	14,166
Motor Spirit Tax	67,920
Qat Tax	30,611
Salt Tax (75 cents per ton on salt exported)	14,421

Income Tax

Income tax for companies is at the rate of 37½ per cent and for individuals from 4 per cent to 75 per cent according to the amount of chargeable income. The table on page 17 shows the tax paid by individuals at various levels of income.

Estate Duty

There is no estate duty in Aden. Probate and Letters of administration are regulated by the Court Fees Ordinance (Cap. 35).

Customs Tariff and Excise Duties

There is no general customs tariff in Aden but taxes are levied on alcoholic liquor, tobacco and motor spirit. The principal rates of duty are given below :

Beer and other fermented liquor at Sh. 3.10 per gallon
Spirits, potable, at Sh. 66 per gallon of the strength of London proof.
Wines at Sh. 8.44 per gallon
Sparkling wines at Sh. 14.81 per gallon
Perfumed spirits at Sh. 24 per gallon
Methylated spirits at 9 per cent *ad valorem*
Cigarettes and biris from Sh. 5 per 1,000 to Sh. 11 per 1,000 according to the selling price.
Cigars and cheroots at 55 per cent *ad valorem*
Manufactured tobacco from 50 cents per lb. to Sh. 4 per lb. according to the selling price
Unmanufactured tobacco (Arabian and Indian) at Sh. 3.60 per maund of 28 lb.
Other kinds of unmanufactured tobacco at 45 per cent *ad valorem*.
Motor spirit at 72 cents per gallon

House and Property Tax

This tax is assessed in the Fortress at 8 per cent per annum of the rateable value and in Sheikh Othman (virtually a rural area) at 4½ per cent. Rateable value is arrived at by first estimating the gross value, which is the annual rent at which premises might reasonably be expected to let assuming the owner undertakes to bear the cost of rates, repairs,

R.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office C-3 (1951-52)1964 MRAI Aden

651 insurance and any other expenses necessary to maintain the premises in a state to command that rent. From the gross value 10 per cent is deducted in lieu of repairs, insurance, etc., and the residue is known as the rateable value.

Sanitation Tax

This tax in the Fortress is assessed at 4½ per cent per annum on the rateable value and in Sheikh Othman at 2½ per cent and is collected to compensate for the conservancy services rendered by the Public Health Department. In Aden where few sewers exist, the daily removal of sullage water and human waste from thousands of houses not connected to main drainage is a considerable task.

[34]

Qat Tax

[27] The tax on qat (a narcotic leaf chewed by the local inhabitants) is collected at the Sheikh Othman Township Office in the case of qat imported overland from the Yemen. Recently a superior quality of qat has been imported by air from Abyssinia and the tax is collected by the Customs and Excise Department near the airport. The tax is assessed at Sh. 5 per 20 lb. of all types of qat imported.

Vehicles

The Township Authority registers all animal and hand-drawn vehicles and a registration fee varying between Sh. 12 and Sh. 20 per annum is charged. Vehicles fitted entirely with rubber tyres are, however, registered free of charge in order to encourage the use of rubber tyres so that the wear and tear on road surfaces can be decreased. Bicycles are not registered at present.

Motor vehicles are registered by the Police, who collect the taxes and issue licences.

Trade Licences

The licensing of general trades was introduced during the war as an aid to control and the fee then was very small and is still only Sh. 5 per annum except for trades in tobacco and dangerous substances, which pay higher rates.

TABLE OF TAX PAYABLE BY INDIVIDUALS AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF INCOME

Tax payable—	INCOME £300	£400	£500	£600	£700	£800	£900	£1,000	£1,200	£1,500	£1,750	£2,000	£2,500	£3,000
	Nil	£ 4	£ 8	£ 12	£ 20	£ 28	£ 36	£ 48	£ 72	£ 126	£ 170	£ 232	£ 342	£ 519
Single	Nil	Nil	2	6	10	16	24	32	54	99	144	193	323	465
Married (without children) .	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	7	11	19	26	45	85	130	175	303	440
Married 1 child . .	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	5	9	13	21	38	75	120	164	288	419
" 2 children . .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	6	12	16	32	66	110	154	272	402
" 3 children . .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4	8	12	27	59	98	143	257	384
" 4 children . .														

Notes: 1. There are allowances for expenditure on life insurance.
2. There are increased allowances for children wholly maintained and educated outside Aden.

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

Chapter 8: Legislation

1951

In 1951, 24 Ordinances were enacted of which the following were the more important: 464

The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 1 of 1951), which made it an offence for any person to employ children as coal coolies, an employment unsuitable for children.

The Port Trust Ordinance (No. 3 of 1951), which consolidated and amended the statutory powers of the Trustees of the Port of Aden. It replaced the Aden Port Trust Act, 1888 (Bombay Act V of 1888). 505

The Income Tax Ordinance (No. 5 of 1951), which repealed and replaced the former Income Tax Ordinance (Cap. 67), which was based on the Indian Income Tax Act, 1922, and introduced up-to-date legislation based on the model Income Tax Ordinance advocated by the Secretary of State. The change involved no departure from the basic principles governing the incidence and scope of the tax but was directed solely to securing better and more practical machinery. 651

The Criminal Courts (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 7 of 1951), the primary purpose of which is to do away with warrant case procedure in trials and to replace it with a consolidated procedure similar in principle to that in summons cases. This is to avoid the unnecessary prolongation of proceedings in warrant cases which that procedure entailed. 695

The Pensions (Increase) Ordinance (No. 10 of 1951), which introduced a scale of increases of pensions payable to officers who retired on pension prior to 1st January, 1946. 657

The Coinage and Currency Ordinance (No. 11 of 1951), under which the currency issued by the East African Currency Board replaced the existing Indian currency prescribed as legal tender under the provisions of the Coinage and Currency Ordinance (Cap. 25). 652

The Exchange Control (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 12 of 1951), which provided for the making of ancillary Exchange Control Regulations to replace certain portions of the Defence (Finance) Regulations, 1941.

The Stamp Duty (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 13 of 1951), which changed the method of paying stamp duty from the affixing of special adhesive stamps to rubber or metal stamped endorsements. Fees not exceeding *Shs.*2 may still, if desired, be paid by adhesive stamps but these stamps shall be ordinary postage stamps. 651

The Court Fees (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 15 of 1951), which effected a change in the method of paying court fees by making provision for the collection and denotation of all court-fees, irrespective of amount, by endorsement, but as a matter of convenience small fees not exceeding *Shs.*2 may optionally be collected and denoted by ordinary postage stamps.

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

651 The Tobacco Tax (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 16 of 1951), which allowed a draw-back of tax in the case of export of tobacco by air as well as by sea, defined more clearly the meaning of importation and removed any doubt that it is an offence for any person to deal in tobacco issued to Her Majesty's Forces at duty-free or reduced duty rates.

494 The Motor Traffic (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 17 of 1951), which empowered the licensing authority to suspend the registration of a motor vehicle until any defects in such vehicle are satisfactorily remedied. It also made provision for a fixed date for the expiration and renewal of driving licences.

657 The Pensions (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance (No. 19 of 1951), which extended the present option of officials to retire or be retired at the age of 45 years for a further period of three years until 31st March, 1955.

651 The Stamp Duty (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance (No. 20 of 1951), which exempted from stamp duty receipts given in respect of sums of money exceeding *Shs.*30 paid by way of salary, wages, pensions or allowances. This exception applies to members of Her Majesty's Forces as well as to persons in civilian employment.

1952

In 1952, 23 Ordinances were enacted of which the following were the more important :

The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 1 of 1952), which granted additional relief in respect of expenses incurred by a tax-payer in sending a child to school or other training establishment outside the Colony, where no suitable educational institution exists in the Colony.

453 The Banking Ordinance (No. 2 of 1952), which is designed to control the establishment and operation of banks in the Colony. It is a measure intended to protect the public from persons carrying on banking business with inadequate financial resources or of whose financial reliability there may be reasonable doubt.

468 The Essential Services (Arbitration) Ordinance (No. 4 of 1952), which provided safeguards against the dangers which might arise to the life and health of the community if certain essential services were interrupted. Such services include the provision of water and electricity, health services, etc. It provided that reference of trade disputes in essential services should be made to an Arbitration Tribunal, whose decision would be binding on both employers and employees, and also that lockouts by employers in such services and strikes by their employees were an offence.

This Ordinance is binding on the Crown as there are essential services in the Colony operated by the Government or by Her Majesty's Forces.

The Ordinance has not yet been brought into operation.

687 The Prevention of Corruption Ordinance (No. 5 of 1952), which introduced more effective measures to combat bribery and corruption.

494 The Motor Vehicles Insurance (Third Party Risks) Ordinance (No. 7 of 1952), which introduced compulsory insurance of motor vehicles in

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

Licensing of Vehicles. £19,756 was collected in fees in 1952 and £15,386 in 1951. The increase was mainly due to the arrival of vehicles in the Colony in connection with the construction of the refinery at Little Aden.

The number of driving licences issued in 1952 was 1,423 compared with 968 in 1951.

Traffic Accidents. There were 384 accidents on the roads of the Colony in 1952 and 242 in 1951. The number of persons killed was 25 in 1952 and 11 in 1951.

Licensing of Arms. Very strict control over the licensing of arms is maintained and licences to possess arms are only issued after the most careful enquiries have been made. An amnesty was proclaimed in October, 1952, advising persons in possession of unlicensed firearms to license them or hand them over to the Police.

PRISONS

General

The Aden Prison is the only penal institution in the Colony and provides accommodation for all convicted offenders, irrespective of age and length of sentence, persons committed to prison on remand, and deportees awaiting deportation. In addition, the prison is declared a place of detention for persons of unsound mind with criminal tendencies.

Approximately 73 per cent of the convicted prisoners come from the Yemen, the Protectorate, and neighbouring territories. Almost all of them are illiterate and very primitive.

Administration of the prison follows the practice adopted in Indian and most colonial prisons and is governed by the Prison Ordinance.

Staff

The prison is under the control of a part-time Superintendent who is assisted by a jailer, an assistant jailer and two clerks. The warders, including instructors, numbered 38.

Prisoners

The total committals to prison was 2,184 in 1952, compared with 1,949 in 1951. The daily average of prisoners of all classes was 179 in 1952 as against 134 in 1951. Prisoners admitted to prison on conviction are divided into two categories, first offenders and recidivists. The percentages of first offenders and recidivists were 54 and 46 respectively.

Discipline

Order and discipline among the prisoners were well maintained during the period.

Health

The general state of health of all prisoners was satisfactory. The daily average sick was 3.2 in 1952, as against 3.3 in 1951. There was no serious illness among the prison inmates during 1952. A Medical

3:Royal Institute of International Affairs U-4 (no date)1954 M1 Middle East
Aden MMI

sion was made in the Fortress Township for the election of three members, who must be of Aden or British birth; the franchise was limited to males born or resident for a stipulated period in Aden, and with a property qualification which was reduced by half (giving an electorate of about 5,000) after the 1949 election had resulted in the return of an Arab merchant, a Pakistani advocate, and a Parsee merchant.

The climate of Aden Colony and of the southern coast is generally pleasant between November and March. The summer heat, though great, is less intense than that of the interior of Arabia or of Iraq, but this is more than offset by the oppressive humidity between April and October. Rainfall is trifling, but heavy thunderstorms occur irregularly. The town relies for its water-supply on bore-holes at Shaikh Othman, supplemented by supplies in the famous Tanks, which date from pre-Islamic times and were restored for use in 1856. They have a storage capacity of 8 million gallons. Aden is a free port and there are no customs dues except on liquor, drugs, tobacco, motor spirit, and salt. Salt is a government monopoly, and is produced locally in large quantities for export by evaporation from sea-water. The only other local industries are dhow-building, soap manufacture, dyeing, cigarette-making, and fishing.

The present prosperity of the Colony depends on its importance as a bunkering port for coal and oil, for which purposes it handles a tonnage of shipping comparable with that of Liverpool. This balance will be altered when the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's new 5-million-tons-a-year refinery, begun in November 1952, comes on stream in 1954.[1] Apart from the export of salt (which supplied in 1950 75 per cent of India's imports of that commodity), the bulk of Aden's other trade consists of entrepôt and transhipment between neighbouring countries. The number of vessels, exclusive of country craft (sailing dhows, etc.) which entered the port during 1951 was 4,338 with an aggregate tonnage of 18,715,839, more than double the figure for 1938; the number of country craft was 1,643 with a tonnage of 128,201, a decrease of 17 per cent compared with the previous year. Recent estimates of imports and exports were:

	Imports	*Exports*
	(£ million)	
1948	2·29	1·88
1949	2·73	2·19
1950	3·49	3·25
1951	4·19	3·70
1952	4·71	3·80

(SOURCE: *Digest of Colonial Statistics*, no. 10, September-October 1953).

[1] *Petroleum Press Service*, December 1952.

3:Royal Institute of International Affairs U-4 (no date)1954 M1 Middle East
Aden MM1

439 Restrictions imposed by Eritrea and Somalia on the importation of goods from Aden were causing some dissatisfaction.

491 The Colony is served by good roads which extend to Shaikh
494 Othman and Lahej. Increasing use is being made of motor
505 vehicles on some 700 miles of tracks in the Western Aden Pro-
506 tectorate, but communications with the Hadramaut coast are
205 almost entirely by sea or air. Since the Colony ceased to be
436 administered by the Government of India in 1937, it has had its own postal administration and issued its own stamps. When India became independent in 1947, the Aden Government began to consider abandoning the rupee as the legal currency, but the change to the East African shilling (divided into 100 cents) was not effected until October 1951, when Aden came under the jurisdiction of the East African currency board.

651 The main sources of revenue are income tax, excess profits
652 and other direct taxes, and excise duties. Revenue for 1951–2 was £1,577,646 and expenditure £1,597,400 plus a contribution of £1 million to the development fund. The development plan, as revised in 1949, envisaged the expenditure in three years of £2,023,000, of which 53 per cent was to be provided by the Colony's own surplus balances and 15 per cent by the British Government under the Colonial Development and Welfare vote, while it was hoped to raise the remainder (£660,000) as loans in London. Further proposals for development until 1956–7 at an additional cost of nearly £4 million were being considered by the Colonial Office at the end of 1952. In 1953 development plan expenditure approved[1] for the Colony and Protectorates reached a total of £6,270,000, of which £850,000 came from Colonial Development and Welfare funds and
658 £5,420,000 from local loans and resources.[2] Meanwhile, under
[873 the educational part of the 1949 programme (16 per cent of the
874] total) an Aden College of upper secondary status and a technical college have been built, and a number of primary and secondary schools built or enlarged. In 1952 3,152 boys and 1,562 girls were receiving primary, and 1,552 boys and 256 girls secondary education in government or private schools. Egyptian women teachers were being employed in post-primary schools owing to the shortage of qualified Aden women. Overseas scholarships to the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan and Great

[1] In principle, but subject to further revision.

[2] In December of that year the Aden Government floated a public loan for the first time for the financing of development works, including a new power station, a new telephone exchange, and major water improvements. A total of £1,330,000 was issued in 4½ per cent stock of which £480,000 was taken up for Colonial Government funds, £100,000 reserved for public subscription in Aden, and £750,000 was placed on the London market.